

Keynote Speaker

William “Bill” Thomas, MD



Dr. Bill Thomas is a visionary reformer and founder of the **Eden Alternative**, which champions turning nursing homes into vibrant centers of care and companionship. The **Eden Alternative** is built upon the principle that an elder-centered community must be committed to creating a human habitat where life revolves around contact with the living world and a sense of meaning and purpose.

To date, more than 300 nursing homes across the country have been “Edenized” with bright decor, gardens, pets, and on-site day care and playgrounds for children. Over the last 15 years, Eden communities have seen reduced employee turnover, patients experiencing lower infection rates and a lower mortality rate. Dr. Thomas has also pioneered the next phase in care for frail elders with the **Green House Project**, small community residences that meet all the quality standards of a highly regulated industry within a setting that feels like home.

Dr. Thomas has received recognition and numerous awards for his work, including the 1998 America’s Award for “Unsung Heroes,” The Giraffe Project’s “Sticking Your Neck Out Award,” and a ‘Distinguished Service in Aging Award’ from the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. In addition, he was honored with the Heinz Award for the Human Condition and was chosen by *US News World Report Magazine* as one of *America’s best leaders*.

As America ages, Dr. Thomas, with contagious enthusiasm and vision, provides a timely prescription for the care of generations to come.



Thank You to the Following for Their Generous Sponsorship of This Event

AARP



Long Term Care Partners



NH Department of Health and Human Services



Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman



State Committee on Aging

